

Political Action Conferences Set

"Revitalization of political action bodies at the state and local level must be given a top priority at this time," California Labor COPE Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty said this week in San Francisco.

The alert signal followed a recent letter by the state AFL-CIO leader calling to the attention of local bodies the democratic procedures for the recommendation of candidates for endorsement by the California Labor COPE when it meets in pre-primary convention on April 21, 1960.

The site of the state COPE pre-primary convention will be California Hall in San Francisco.

Prior to the endorsement convention, the Executive Council of California Labor COPE will meet on April 20 at the Clift Hotel to review local recommendations for reporting to the convention on the 21st. The convention call is scheduled to be issued 60 days in advance of the date set for the political meet.

Haggerty urged that the major activity of local COPEs at present be focused on registration work. Many of the trade unionists registered during the "right to work" campaign have been dropped from the registration rolls and need to be reregistered. The closing registration date is April 14 for the June primary election.

Announcement was also made this week that following the Califor-

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C. J. HAGGERTY
Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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Federation - Governor Meet on Water; Water Development for the People vs. Enthronement of Monopoly Remains Key Issue

A special committee of the Federation's executive council headed by Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty and President Thomas L. Pitts, met last Friday with Governor Edmund G. Brown to discuss the conditions for labor's support of his policy-barren \$1.75 billion water bond program which goes before the voters this November.

The labor leaders emerged from a "friendly" two-and-a-half hour session with the labor issues brought into sharp focus.

Public financing and development of a mammoth water project for the people vs. the enthronement of dominant monopoly interests in the distribution of benefits; state policy governing the pricing and distribution of publicly-generated power, and the collective bargaining rights of labor in the operation of the project were among basic issues discussed with the Governor, but left unresolved.

In San Francisco this Monday, Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty

said that the "legal sufficiency" and "content" of an executive statement of policy to be issued by Governor Brown within the week will determine whether or not the Federation can even consider support of the Governor's water program under the mandate of the 1959 San Diego convention.

See preliminary story, on this page, on the Governor's statewide TV address to the people on January 20.

"The unanimous convention actions taken last year are absolutely binding on any Federation decision," Haggerty added.

The 2,000 delegates to the 1959 San Diego convention, who heard Governor Brown promise that he would not permit his water program to enrich the landed barons in the lower end of the San Joaquin Valley controlling 63% of the land in the potential service area of the state project, adopted a strong statement of policy and resolution demanding a special session of the legislature to enact the necessary protections for the taxpayers before the November elections.

In accordance with labor's long-standing policy opposing the development of water and power resources for the enrichment of the few, the convention established as a condition of support of the Gov-

Brown Reveals Water Policy Intentions

Governor Edmund G. Brown, in a statewide telecast this Wednesday, officially informed voters that he would not seek basic legislative policies which will govern his \$1.75 billion water bond program, but instead declared his own policy intentions.

The text of Brown's speech, together with a statement on contract principles released by his water experts on Thursday and not available as we go to press, are presently being forwarded to the Federation Executive Council's 14-member committee on Water which met with Governor Brown last Friday. (See lead story this issue.)

The committee told the Governor that they would examine his policy intentions as to their "content and legal sufficiency" under the binding policy mandate voted unanimously at the Federation's 1959 convention in San Diego.

Judged in accordance with the mandate of the San Diego convention, however, it is clear that the Brown policy declaration fell far short of the mark.

Preliminary analysis of the Governor's address reveals:

Public Power

The large block of some 400,000

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Brown Reveals Water Policy Intentions

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kilowatt hours of firm power generated at Oroville, whether sold on the market at its full value as prime power or whether bartered at its market value with the PG&E for cheaper dump power for internal project pumping requirements, would be used to reduce the cost (subsidization) of water deliveries.

The Governor indicated that power for marketing would probably be available only in the early stages of construction, because in the long run the tremendous amount of power needed to lift water over the Tehachapis would make the overall project power-deficient. It is recognized that water-lifting requirements would consume two or three times the amount of public power that would be generated.

The meaning of the Governor's power declaration to potential users within the area of generation is that the publicly-generated power will not be priced on the basis of allocated costs with reference to the cost of production, as in the case of public power developed in the CVP and sold under reclamation law. According to Governor Brown, to the extent that any power is marketed, it will be at the full market price (competitive with PG&E steam power), and at that high price, on a public preference basis.

Water Deliveries and "Unjust Enrichment"

The Governor rejected outright anything comparable to the anti-monopoly, anti-speculation protections in reclamation law. Instead, he proposed a two-price system which, he said, was patterned after the dual pricing formula developed in the so-called small projects bill, which was designed to grant large landholders a smaller amount of subsidy, but to allow them the full amount of enhanced land values.

Under the state program, the Governor would have holders of lands in excess of 160 acres pay the cost of delivered water, including the **market value** of the power used to pump it to this land.

On the other hand, for holders of

under 160 acres, he would have water delivered at cost, **including only the actual cost of the power to pump it rather than the market value of that power**, but also allowing a subsidy from power in the price.

Assuming that cost allocation standards existed in California law, (there are none) and that large landholders would actually pay the full cost of bringing water to them, the Governor's declared intentions would permit subsidized water only to the small farmers and city customers.

On the other hand, apart from the subsidies, the Governor would not place any restrictions on the amount of enrichment realized by landholders, large and small, by virtue of the fact that availability of publicly-developed water will increase the productivity of the land, and therefore the value of the land. The large landholders, because they may sell their land at any time to small landholders with the promise of subsidy, would be permitted to realize the full amount of their enhanced land values, which is variously estimated between a minimum of \$500 per acre and a maximum of \$1,000 per acre.

For example, a representative of the Kern County Land Company recently stated that water is expected for 56,000 acres of their approximately 350,000-acre holdings in Kern County in the potential service area of the San Joaquin Valley-Southern California Aqueduct. At the minimum estimate of \$500 per acre, the enrichment of the 56,000 acres would amount to \$28 million.

Worker Rights

In his TV address, the Governor made no reference to collective bargaining rights or prevailing rates in the operation of the project. Public employees who would be involved do not have these rights under the present state law.

The Governor said there are many other issues he would like to take up, which the time allowed did not permit.

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nia Labor COPE pre-primary convention, a national COPE area conference for Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada will be held at the Whitcomb Motor Hotel in San Francisco, April 27 and 28.

This two-day conference, sponsored by the national COPE, will be open to officers of local unions, local central bodies, federal labor unions, building trades councils, Women's Activities Department units and COPEs.

Attendance appeals are being specifically directed to the officers of the various local unions. Also, as in past area conferences, a definite portion of the two-day conference will be directed toward women's activities. Delegates are being urged to plan on bringing their wives.

Registration for the area political meet will open at 8:30 a.m. on the first day, April 27.

New L-G Regulations

Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell this Wednesday issued a regulation prescribing financial reporting forms which must be filed by all labor organizations under the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act.

The law requires that these forms be filed by all labor organizations covered by the Act within 90 days after the end of their fiscal years. The forms are being printed and will be mailed shortly after February 1 directly to those who have filed the labor organization information form (LM-1) which was required by December 14, 1959. Copies will also be available from the Department of Labor.

Commissioner John L. Holcomb of the Bureau of Labor-Management Reports reminded all labor organizations that the 22 field offices located throughout the country will be able to assist them in preparing the forms.

Federation and Governor Meet on Water -- Water Development for the People vs. Enthronement of Monopoly Remains the Key Issue

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ernor's program the enactment of "ironclad" protections against monopoly and speculation "at least equal in strength and purpose to those in federal reclamation law."

The delegates said that unless voters were expected to approve a "blank check," it was necessary to close the state policy vacuum before the giant bond issue vote.

The rights of labor in regard to prevailing rates and collective bargaining were also made part of the convention policy actions, and forcefully brought to the attention of the Governor last Friday.

Under present state law, for example, electricians at power generation facilities would be without any organizational or collective bargaining rights. Further, prevailing rates and bargaining rights for employees of irrigation districts and other local agencies which would contract with the state for water are virtually non-existent.

SPECIAL SESSION OUT

The possibilities of labor support for the state water program under the Federation's convention mandate were materially dimmed over the weekend following the labor meeting with the Governor, when the press reported that Brown had definitely decided against calling any special session of the legislature to iron out policy deficiencies and close the gaping loopholes for unjust enrichment.

It is recognized that any executive policy statements issued by the Governor, even if satisfactory to labor in every respect as to the Governor's intentions, are not even binding on the Governor himself, let alone future governors, the legislature and the courts.

As pointed out in the Federation policy statement adopted in San Diego, the history of water development in the state indicates that unless protections are enacted with the leverage of the project and contracts are completed prior to construction, there is little or no hope of getting any such protections for taxpayers after approval is given to the project and construction is begun.

The Federation nevertheless has informed the Governor that labor will give his forthcoming executive policy declarations every consideration, with an eye to their possible "legal sufficiency."

MOVE TO SPLIT LABOR

A concerted effort to split the labor movement in the state and draw the support of labor officials for the water bond act has complicated the problem of working out satisfactory policy solutions with the Governor.

Virtually on the eve of the scheduled meeting of Federation officials with the Governor, a letter was sent out statewide to many councils and local union officials by a "California State Labor Committee for Water Development" requesting that labor officials allow the use of their names to push the bond program.

All labor organizations in the state were immediately notified by C. J. Haggerty that this so-called labor committee was not an official body established by the labor movement, but an attempt to "undermine labor's long-standing position in support of comprehensive power development for the benefit of all the people and not the enthronement of monopoly."

The following is the full text of the state AFL-CIO leader's letter: TO: All Unions and Councils Greetings:

I am writing to call to your attention a most urgent development concerning the proposed \$1.75 billion state water bond issue which will go before the voters in November.

We have learned that a letter has been sent statewide to all councils and many local union officers by a committee which calls itself the "California Labor Committee for Water Development", with headquarters in Los Angeles, urging that union officials join this so-called labor committee to support the state water bond act. The letter is signed by Homer L. Woxberg, State Director, and lists Governor Edmund G. Brown as honorary chairman.

Please be advised that this com-

mittee is not an official body established by the state labor movement. On the contrary, allowing your name to be used by this committee would be in direct conflict with a detailed statement of policy and composite resolution unanimously adopted by the 1959 convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, in San Diego.

These convention actions declared labor's opposition to the proposed water program unless basic policies which will govern the water bond act are first adopted at a special session of the legislature prior to the November elections. Without ironclad protections governing the distribution of benefits, the delegates said that California labor could not possibly endorse a program which would enrich landed monopolists, speculators and corporation farmers by millions and millions of dollars at the expense of the taxpayers. Needless to say, many of those who would be enriched are the perennial proponents of the right-

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Race Bar Dropped

The final chapter of the lengthy debate at the national AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco last fall over the best method of proceeding to clean up pockets of possible discrimination within the labor movement was written this week in Cleveland, Ohio.

At the time of the AFL-CIO convention, stories adverse to the labor movement got front page coverage. This Thursday, buried in some dailies, was a two-inch story out of Cleveland on the Associated Press wire. Its substance:

Delegates to the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen convention voted in Cleveland this Wednesday to eliminate race restriction from requirements for membership listed in the union's constitution.

The AP story says that overwhelming approval was given to the constitutional amendment.

AFL-CIO Mounts Nationwide Campaign

A two-pronged campaign to mobilize the labor movement internally, and mount an all-out offensive on the legislative front was launched last week in Washington by trade unionists from all parts of the nation called into special sessions by the AFL-CIO.

Organization and full development of internal resources was the subject of a three-day conference on January 7, 8 and 9, which brought officers of the various state AFL-CIO movements to Washington to discuss ways and means of strengthening the existing cooperation between national and state organizations, and to develop areas and techniques for expansion of mutual efforts.

The three-day session was followed on the 11th, 12th and 13th by a legislative conference which saw more than 600 delegates from state and local central bodies pledge themselves to a program of intensive activity at the grassroots level to mobilize support for a 12-point "Positive Program for America."

Federation Executive Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty and President Thomas L. Pitts returned from Washington this week with the firm conviction that unless labor in California organizes itself as in the successful campaign against the "right to work" initiative in 1958, there can be no hope for the state movement meeting its obligations to the rank and file membership, the national AFL-CIO, and the forces of liberalism in the nation who want to keep America free and progressive.

In a joint statement, the AFL-CIO leaders said:

"Any trade unionist who does not recognize that the chips are down in this election year is deluding himself. We are experiencing now the devastating effect of what the forces of reaction accomplished last year when they marshalled the strength to put over the Landrum-Griffin bill as a means of tightening the legal noose on the bona fide functions of labor unions.

"It is apparent that the 'blood tasting' party in Congress last session was only a prelude of what is being planned for the future. Under the leadership of some of the nation's most powerful corporate

giants, the 'corporation man' is being developed and schooled in the art of grassroots political action in an open campaign for labor legislation designed to restore the conscienceless power of big business prior to the days of the New Deal administration and the enactment of the Wagner Act.

"A labor movement continually on the defensive means a slow but a certain whittling away of the basic rights of free workers. The only answer to this challenge is to mount the offensive behind the constructive program of organized labor aimed at keeping America progressive, securing our ideals of economic and political freedom, and strengthening the free world's posture for peace."

STATE-NATIONAL COOPERATION

The need for improving working relationships between the national AFL-CIO and state and local bodies in any action program was faced squarely at the Washington conference on internal relationships.

AFL-CIO President George Meany told state AFL-CIO leaders that the national office is planning the establishment of a department for state and local central bodies as a vehicle for working out the details and the machinery for coordination of activities.

Meany made it clear that such a department would have as its main function the provision of assistance to state and local bodies without infringing upon their autonomy in any way. It is recognized generally that many short-staffed state and local councils need the staff assistance of the national office not only on matters of national importance but also in connection with the development of their own programs locally.

LEGISLATIVE GOALS

The 600 delegates representing national and international unions, state bodies and larger city central bodies who attended the three-day legislative conference were given ample opportunity to carry the 12-point "Positive Program for America" to their representatives in Congress. California labor leaders present met with groups of the Califor-

Water Development And Monopoly Remain Key Issues

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to-work legislation and other restrictive anti-labor laws.

Further, the matter of labor's position at this moment is scheduled for discussion with the Governor himself on January 15 by a broadly-based 14-man committee of the Federation's Executive Council.

Accordingly, therefore, pursuant to convention mandates, we urge you not to join this unofficial committee established to undermine labor's long-standing position in support of comprehensive water and power development for the benefit of all the people and not the enthronement of monopoly.

Finally, should any union officer have inadvertently done so, we ask that he immediately withdraw permission to use his name by the committee.

Your cooperation is urgently needed if convention actions are to have force and meaning.

Fraternally yours,
s/s C. J. Haggerty
Secretary-Treasurer

nia congressional delegation to impress upon them the need for legislative action which will put the nation back on a progressive course.

The 12-point program, unveiled at the three-day conference, is designed to invigorate the economy, provide "minimum social protections", ensure meaningful civil rights safeguards and strengthen the nation's military position for peace.

Details of the program have been covered in the January 16 issue of the AFL-CIO News and are available to all local organizations in the form of a pamphlet.

Copies of "A Positive Program for America", publication No. 104, may be obtained: single copies, free; up to 100 copies, 10c each; and 1,000 copies for \$65, through the AFL-CIO Department of Publications, 815 - 16th Street N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Fed Issues New Labor Law Pamphlet

The mailing of a new Federation pamphlet on the Landrum-Griffin law to all affiliated organizations was begun this Friday at state AFL-CIO headquarters in San Francisco.

Designed as a reference guide for labor organizations, the pamphlet outlines the new law's effect on unions, their members, their officers and agents, employers and others, including the public.

In the foreword to the pamphlet, Secretary-Treasurer C. J. Haggerty points out that in each instance, this is done in terms of what is permissive, what is mandatory, and what is prohibited.

Separate sections are also included in the pamphlet which outline the enforcement provisions and penalties, including a list of criminal penalties, and amendments to the Taft-Hartley Act.

Haggerty's foreword notes that cross-references to the law are inserted in italics so that persons using the Federation's reference guide may conveniently check the exact language of the law on each point in the pamphlet.

Further, where the Secretary of Labor has issued interpretations on the law, as of the cut-off date for printing, cross-reference is also made in the pamphlet to rules and regulations published in the Federal Register.

The pamphlet mailing includes the full text of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, and the various rules and regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor.

The enclosure of these additional items, Haggerty said, will give all affiliated organizations a completely usable document.

A covering letter points out that publication of the pamphlet was held up considerably because of the Federation's desire to service affiliates with a handy reference document, and not duplicate the work of international unions in analyzing the various ramifications of the law or developing acceptable procedures for complying with its many requirements.

Direct Vet Housing Loan Bill Introduced

Congressman B. F. Sisk (D., California) chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, is sponsoring a bill to take the sagging veterans housing program out from under the weight of Eisenhower tight-money policies.

The proposed law would authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to issue and sell bonds at an interest rate of not less than 4½ per cent. The funds obtained would be used for veterans' home loans. Loans could be made in any rural or city area, but only when private financing under the present VA guaranteed loan program is not available.

The Sisk bill would also extend the housing program for World War II veterans until February 1, 1965, so that it would expire on the same date as the program for Korean veterans. It would authorize sale of up to five billion dollars a year in bonds. Veterans would pay the current rate of 5¼ per cent interest on loans. The ¾ of 1 per cent "spread" between bond interest rate and loan rate would build a reserve to cover possible losses. Studies indicate no tax funds would

be required to finance the program, Sisk said.

The plan anticipates that the current veterans' direct loan program, financed by treasury appropriations, will not be continued past its scheduled expiration on July 25, 1960. The proposed housing bonds are expected to be purchased by major private trust funds and state and municipal retirement systems as well as the general public.

In introducing the bill, Congressman Sisk said: "The veterans' housing program is becoming inoperative as a result of the Administration's tight money policy. An increase in interest rates last year did little or nothing to improve the supply of mortgage money available. Discounts of up to 12 per cent are presently charged and effective interest rates are above 6 per cent. In some areas these rates are now in conflict with state usury laws, and suits are pending charging violation of these laws."

Prosperity For Whom?

Recently the United Press International reported that stockholders received record dividends in 1959 amounting to more than \$16 billion.

A few days prior to this report, Dr. Clarence Long of Johns Hopkins University, a recognized expert in the job statistics field, told a U.S. Senate Committee on Unemployment Problems, that you have to double the officially reported three million unemployment figure to get a true indication of the state of the job market.

Committee chairman Eugene McCarthy (D., Minn.) said that unemployment in some sections of the nation "is as bad as during the depression."

Solomon Barkin, economist for the Textile Workers Union of America, also points out that recent figures show 166 areas where 6% or more of the work force is jobless, including 22 areas not counted by the government. All but eight of the 166 have been so listed since 1957—and many of them for seven years or more. In January 1959, there were 119 such areas.

Water Meet

The California Water & Power Users Association, jointly sponsored by labor, small farmer and other public interest groups, is meeting January 30, in Sacramento, to take appropriate action on basic issues involved in the \$1.75 billion water bond program.

The meeting will convene at 10:30 a.m. at the El Rancho Motel in the capital city.

Many unions throughout the state are among the Association's contributing members. Those attending the meeting will be able to hear key legislators on the water issue, as well as Governor Brown's water experts.

The Association is firmly on record in support of anti-monopoly anti-speculation protections in the distribution of benefits under the mammoth program.

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Painters Take Note—Lesson in Whitewashing

The American Medical Association, in a frantic effort to block the labor-supported Forand Bill designed to provide medical care for the aged, is staging a series of regional conferences on "Positive Health and Life Fulfilment for the Aging".

In cooperation with the California Medical Association, such a regional conference was held this week in San Francisco, January 20-21 at the Fairmont Hotel. The high-sounding title assigned to the conference, however, has served as a poor camouflage for the obvious absence of any liberal voices invited to address the conference.

San Francisco News-Call-Bulletin staff writer Ernest Rapley, in a series of hard-hitting articles, has unmasked the San Francisco side-show as a complete whitewash.

Compared, however, to the skilled Madison Avenue brush applied to a survey report on health problems of the aged in a recent editorial of the AMA News, the conference whitewash has taken on the complexion of an apprentice's job.

The link between the editorial slant of the AMA and the purpose of the regional conferences was underscored by the newswriter.

The AFL-CIO has pointed out repeatedly that the AMA is pulling out all stops in a massive Madison Avenue-type public relations program to kill the Forand Bill. This measure, now before Congress, would provide minimal medical care insurance for senior citizens receiving benefits under the Social Security Old Age and Disability Insurance program.

The survey study involved was conducted by the National Research Center of the University of Chicago.

The highly-respected research center, of national reputation, said flatly:

"The data . . . indicates that one-

fifth of all older people, if they had a medical bill of \$500, would have no financial resources from which they could draw to meet such expenses."

The study pointed out further that 7.2% could pay such a bill only by mortgaging their homes or other property; that 14.6% would have to get the money from their children and other relatives; and that another 8.2% would have to look to public assistance and charities.

Rapley quoted the brushstrokes of the AMA editorial on the study as follows:

"It shows (the AMA says) that only 9.6% of persons aged 65 and over said they could not pay a medical bill of \$500 . . . more than 90% of the over 65 group said that they have available means to meet such a bill."

Rapley noted that the AMA editorial ignored the following report declaration:

"If the group whose only assets were homes which they own, or the cash value of life insurance, or the help of children, are combined with the one-fifth of the older workers, **two-fifths of all older people would have no ready resources from which to meet a medical bill of \$500.**

Labor Appointments

Governor Edmund G. Brown has recently announced three additional appointments from the ranks of organized labor to public bodies. Included are the following:

—Michael R. Callahan, vice president of the California Labor Federation, and executive officer of the State Council of Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel Service Employees, was re-appointed to the Board of Directors of the State Compensation Insurance Fund.

—Ralph H. Bronson, business

NAACP Commends Jazz Musician

The NAACP West Coast Regional Office extended commendation to jazz musician, Dave Brubeck, for his refusal to succumb to southern racial pressures.

Brubeck, a leader in the jazz field, and a member of the Musicians Union in the Bay Area, refused to drop his Negro bass player, Eugene Wright, when southern colleges threatened to cancel the group's appearance. The popular jazz musician disclosed that his stand was costing him an estimated \$40,000 in bookings. The telegram sent to Mr. Brubeck by the NAACP was as follows:

On behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the West Coast, we are anxious to express our deep admiration of your courageous stand against submitting your band to the pressures of immoral racial discrimination. We do not underestimate the financial loss incurred nor do we overestimate the very valuable and tangible contribution that you have made to the fight for human rights. Again we commend you for a very inspiring stand and we echo your sentiments that prejudice is indeed "morally, religiously and politically wrong."

The telegram was signed by Acting Regional Secretary Tarea Hall Pittman and Field Secretaries Everett P. Brandon and Ellis H. Casson.

manager of Operating Engineers Local 12, Los Angeles, was also re-appointed to the same board.

—John S. Crivello, business agent and secretary of the Seine and Line Fishermen's Union of Monterey, was appointed to the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission.